



JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.  
MAYOR

*City of Charleston*  
*South Carolina*

BARBARA W. VAUGHN  
DIRECTOR  
PUBLIC INFORMATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **City Sponsors Second "Weathering the Economic Storm" Business Workshop**

On Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. and the City of Charleston Office of Business Services will host the second of a series of business workshops titled "Weathering the Economic Storm." The workshop series aims to provide members of the local business community with information, resources, and strategies to address some of the problems caused by the economic downturn. Each workshop is unique, with a panel of local professionals to present on specific issues. The topics covered in the series are direct responses to concerns that the Mayor and City staff have been hearing over the past several months from local business owners, lenders, property owners, and other constituents.

Mayor Riley said, "Providing information to our local small business owners is a crucial step towards maintaining a vibrant and thriving local economy. This second workshop will provide information resources and strategies for local businesses. The City of Charleston is committed to providing our local businesses every possible resource for their continued success during this economic downturn."

#### **The next event will be held on Thursday, May 14 from 8:00 to 9:30am in the Palmetto Room of the SpringHill Suites at 98 Ripley Point Drive in West**

**Ashley**. The workshop will focus on business planning, whether it be initial planning for a start-up, strategic planning to grow or reposition a business, or contingency planning for a potential business interruption. Three speakers will discuss the importance of goal-setting and focused business planning, how to position your business to take advantage of an economic recovery, and how to protect your business against an unforeseen disaster. The short presentations will be followed by time for Q&A from the audience.

Speakers for the May 14 workshop include:

- **Mary Porter** – Porter Consulting Group
- **Charles Williams** – Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)
- **Scott Cave** – Business Continuity Planning Council (Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce)

This event is free of charge. Please RSVP to Alexis Gross in the Office of Business Services at [agross@ci.charleston.sc.us](mailto:agross@ci.charleston.sc.us) or 843-724-3796.

**FOR MORE INFO:**

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